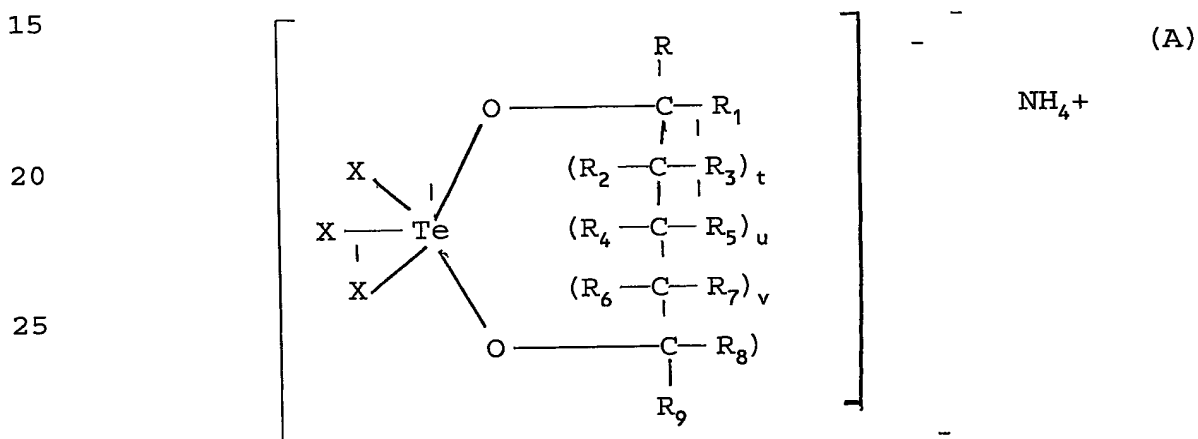


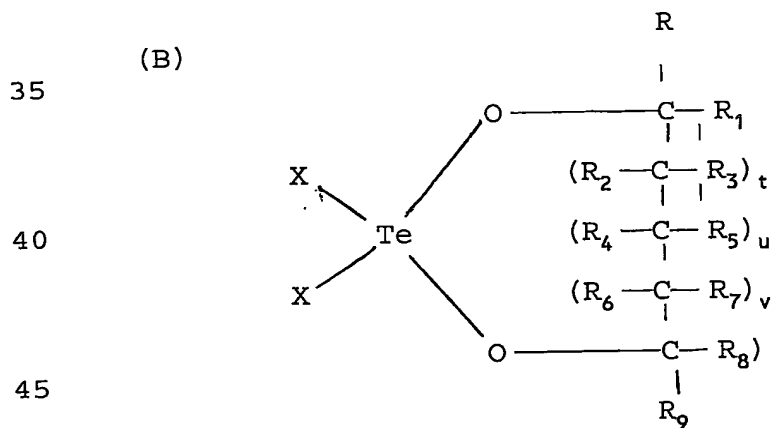
Claims:

1. A method for the direct or adjunct treatment of bacterial or fungal infections in fish and crustaceans including shell fish which comprises providing an effective amount of an organic tellurium compound in an aqueous environment to which said fish or crustaceans are exposed.

2. A method for the direct or adjunct treatment of bacterial or fungal infections in fish and crustaceans as defined in claim 1 wherein the tellurium compound is selected from compounds of the formula:



or



or

TeO₂ or complexes of TeO₂

(C)

or

PhTeCl₃

(D)

5 or

TeX₄, when X is Cl, Br or F

or

(C₆H₅)₄P⁺(TeCl₃(O₂C₂H₄))⁻

10 (E)

wherein t is 1 or 0; u is 1 or 0; v is 1 or 0; R, R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆, R₇, R₈, and R₉ are the same or different and are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons, hydroxy, alkyl or from 1 to 5 carbon atoms, halogen, haloalkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, carboxy, alkylcarbonylalkyl of 2 to 10 carbons, alkanoyloxy of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, carboxyalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons atoms, acyl, amido, cyano, amidoalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons, N-monoalkylamidoalkyl of 2 to 10 carbons, N,N-dialkylamidoalkyl of 4 to 10 carbons, cyanoalkyl of 1 to 5 carbons alkoxy of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, alkoxyalkyl of 2 to 10 carbon atoms and -COR₁₀ wherein R₁₀ is alkyl of 1 to 5 carbons; and X is halogen.

25 3. A method for the direct or adjunct treatment of bacterial or fungal infections in fish and crustaceans as defined in claim 1 wherein the tellurium compound is ammonium trichloro (dioxoethylene-O,O') tellurate.

30 4. A method for the direct or adjunct treatment of bacterial or fungal infections in fish and crustaceans as defined in claim 1 where the treatment of bacterial or fungal infections in fish and crustaceans is a direct treatment.

35 5. A method for the direct or adjunct treatment of bacterial or fungal infections in fish and crustaceans as

defined in claim 1 where the treatment of bacterial or fungal infections in fish and crustaceans is an adjunct treatment.

- 5 6. A method for the direct or adjunct treatment of bacterial or fungal infections in fish and crustaceans as defined in claim 1 where the treatment of bacterial or fungal infections in fish and crustaceans is based on the addition of 0.025 to 25 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ to the aqueous environment
10 of the fish or crustacean.